

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

EXPRESS MAIL mailing label No. EF024292042US
Deposited November 20, 2003

USA Patent Application
Erich RAUCH, et al
METHOD AND APPARATUS
FOR MELTING A METAL

Priority: German Patent Application
102 56 513.9 filed December 4, 2002

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S I R:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Respectfully submitted herewith is a copy of a German Patent Office Search Report (2 pages) from the parallel German application 102 56 513.9 of which the present application claims priority, together with copies of its 4 cited references.

In the German Patent Office Search Report all of the references are listed in category A which means the documents (references) define the general background state of the art. Two of the references, namely WO 99/24194 and Patent Abstracts of Japan publication no. 62099423 are in the English language.

Respectfully also presented herewith are 3 references disclosed and discussed on pages 1-2 of the specification. One of the references, namely US Patent 5,411,240 is in the English language and WO 99/48637 has an English Abstract.

In the German Patent Office Search Report the words "Kat." means category, "Ermittelte Druckschriften/Erläuterungen" means

transmitted publications/explanations, "Abstr." means Abstract, "Betr. Ansprüche" means concerning claims, "IPC/Fundstellen" means IPC location found. This translation now points out in English relevant portions listed in the German Patent Office Search Report.

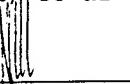
Three of the submitted references are in the English language and further a fourth reference has an English Abstract. Three of the references are discussed in the specification. Since this translation and the specification now point out in English the relevant portions of the non-English documents no further concise explanation should be required. Nevertheless please see Figs. and corresponding text of the references for further relevance.

A PTO-1449 form is presented listing all the 7 different references which are submitted herewith.

Translations of the foreign language references are not available to the undersigned.

This submission meets the requirements of 37 CFR §1.56, 1.97 and 1.98(a) and MPEP 609.

Respectfully submitted
Erich RAUCH, et al

by: 
MARTIN A. FARBER
Attorney for Applicants
Registered Representative
Registration No.: 22,345

866 United Nations Plaza
New York, NY 10017
(212) 758-2878

Form PTO-1449

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Doctor's Number (Optional)

Application Number

WP-1879-US

Erich RAUCH, et al

Filing Date

Group Art Unit

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
						YES	NO
	3 9 3 1 1 0 0	9/18/89	Germany				
	4 4 3 9 2 1 4	5/9/96	Germany				
	9 9 2 4 1 9 4	5/20/99	WO				
	9 9 4 8 6 3 7	9/30/99	WO				
	19 5 0 4 4 1 5	1/4/96	Germany				

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN Publ. no. 62-0 99 423 METAL COLLECTING EQUIPMENT, TOYOTA MOTOR CORP. Date of publ. of Appl. 08/05/87

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.